

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method for registering a device, the method comprising steps of:

- (A) at the device, transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and
- (B) at the registration server, registering the device in response to receipt of the registration request message.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (B) comprises steps of:

- (B) (1) obtaining an identifier of the device; and
- (B) (2) registering the device based on the identifier.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (B)(1) comprises a step of assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the method further comprises steps of:

- (C) at the registration server, transmitting the assigned identifier to the device; and
- (D) at the device, recording the assigned identifier.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising steps of:

- (C) at the registration server prior to the step (B), determining whether the device is registered; and
- (D) at the registration server, performing the step (B) only if it is determined in the step (C) that the device is not registered.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

10. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of recording the identifier of the device.

11. The method of claim 4, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of creating an account for use with a service, the account being associated with the identifier of the device.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of:

(C) at the registration server, transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed in the step (B).

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a printer.

14. A computer-implemented method performed by a registration server to register a device, the method comprising steps of:

- (A) receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does not include information identifying a user of the device; and
- (B) registering the device based on the registration request message.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step (B) comprises steps of:

- (B) (1) obtaining an identifier of the device; and
- (B) (2) registering the device based on the identifier.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the step (B) (1) comprises a step of obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the step (B) (1) comprises a step of assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the method further comprises a step of:

- (C) transmitting the assigned identifier to the device.

18. The method of claim 15, further comprising steps of:

- (C) prior to the step (B), determining whether the device is registered; and
- (D) performing the step (B) only if it is determined in the step (C) that the device is not registered.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

20. The method of claim 14, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message

comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

21. The method of claim 14, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of recording the identifier of the device.

22. The method of claim 15, wherein the step (B)(2) comprises a step of creating an account for use with a service, the account being associated with the identifier of the device.

23. The method of claim 14, further comprising a step of:

(C) transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed in the step (B).

24. The method of claim 14, wherein the device comprises a printer.

25. A method performed by a device for registering the device, the method comprising steps of:

(A) transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and

(B) receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

30. The method of claim 25, wherein the device comprises a printer.

31. A system comprising:

a device comprising means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and

a registration server comprising means for registering the device in response to receipt of the registration request message.

32. The system of claim 31, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.

33. The system of claim 31, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.

34. The system of claim 31, wherein the means for registering the device comprises:

means for obtaining an identifier of the device; and
means for registering the device based on the identifier.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

36. The system of claim 34, wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for assigning the identifier to the device, wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting the assigned identifier to the device, and wherein the device further comprises means for recording the assigned identifier.

37. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration server further comprises means for determining whether the device is registered, and wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for registering the device only if the device is not registered.

38. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

39. The system of claim 31, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

40. The system of claim 34, wherein the means for registering the device for use with the service based on the identifier comprises means for recording the identifier of the device.

41. The system of claim 34, wherein the means for registering the device for use with a service based on the identifier comprises means for creating an account for use with the service, the account being associated with the identifier of the device.

42. The system of claim 31, wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed by the means for registering the device.

43. The system of claim 31, wherein the device comprises a printer.

44. A registration server for registering a device, the registration server comprising:

means for receiving a registration request message from the device, wherein the registration request message does

not include information identifying a user of the device; and

means for registering the device based on the registration request message.

45. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the means for registering the device comprises:

means for obtaining an identifier of the device; and

means for registering the device based on the identifier.

46. The registration server of claim 45, wherein the registration request message includes the identifier of the device, and wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for obtaining the identifier from the registration request message.

47. The registration server of claim 45, wherein the means for obtaining the identifier of the device comprises means for assigning the identifier to the device, and wherein the registration server further comprises means for transmitting the assigned identifier to the device.

48. The registration server of claim 44, further comprising:

means for determining whether the device is registered;
and

wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for registering the device only if the device is not registered.

49. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

50. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

51. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the means for registering the device comprises means for recording the identifier of the device.

52. The registration server of claim 45, wherein the means for registering the device for use with the server based on the identifier comprises means for creating an account for use with a service, the account being associated with the identifier of the device.

53. The registration server of claim 44, further comprising:

means for transmitting to the device a registration confirmation message confirming the registration performed by the means for registering the device.

54. The registration server of claim 44, wherein the device comprises a printer.

55. A device comprising:

means for transmitting a registration request message to a registration server in response to input provided by a user of the device, wherein the input does not include information identifying the user; and

means for receiving from the registration server a registration confirmation message confirming that the device has been registered.

56. The device of claim 55, wherein the input comprises performance of only a single action by the user.

57. The device of claim 55, wherein the input comprises the pressing of a button on the device.

58. The device of claim 55, wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting that the device be registered.

59. The device of claim 55, wherein the step (B) comprises a step of registering the device for use with a service, and wherein the registration request message comprises a message requesting initiation of a transaction with the service.

60. The device of claim 55, wherein the device comprises a printer.